DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 258 374 EC 172 743

TITLE	[Newington High School Gifted and Talented Program.]
INSTITUTION	Newington School District, CT.
PUB DATE	[84]
NOTE	23p.; The program was developed at Newington High School.
PUB TYPE	Reports - Descriptive (141)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	*College Credits; *College School Cooperation; Cooperative Programs; *Gifted; Higher Education; High Schools; Internship Programs; Practicums; Program Descriptions; *Seminars
IDENTIFIERS	Connecticut (Newington)

ABSTRACT

Newington (Connecticut) High School developed a gifted/talented program based on independent research, seminar sessions, course offerings in the collegiate setting, internships, and college credit programs at the school. An evening seminar series addresses topics chosen as a result of student needs assessment. The Collegiate Challenge Series offers students in grades 11 and 12 the opportunity to take college courses. Internships with an area museum and planetarium are offered as well as college credit courses as a component of the day program at Newington High School A question and answer section on the Collegiate Challenge Series addresses basic questions of finance, high school credit, and eligibility. Brief descriptions of seminars are provided; subjects include criminal law, scientific thinking, contemporary theatre, calligraphy, and advances in science. Sample registration forms are also included. (CL)

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[Newington High School Gifted and Talented Program]

EC173743

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DIVERSE PROGRAMMING FOR THE GIFTED/TALENTED STUDENT

Planning an effective Gifted/Talented Program can present a variety of obstacles when the challenges of a special program conflict with the students' participation and extra-curricular activities, employment obligations, and academic course loads. Newington (CT) High School overcame these obstacles with a program based on independent research, seminar sessions, course offerings in the collegiate setting, internships and college credit programs at the school. Approximately 100 students out of a total student body of 1500 participate in the enrichment program as a result of their identification as gifted and talented students. This identification is based on the California Test of Basic Skills (97%), I.Q. score (134+), and classroom teacher nomination.

SEMINAR SERIES

The bulk of the program involves evening seminars held at the high school. The seminar topics are chosen as a result of the needs assessment completed by students in the program. The seminars may run in totality anywhere from six to twelve hours in duration. Adult seminar leaders are chosen from the staffs of area colleges and universities, recognized "experts" in the community, and from Newington High School staff who may be teaching in areas other than their assigned subject matter in the day program. A seminar series is held each semester.

The seminars may involve workshops or small group discussions of issues which range from archeology, the presidency, calligraphy, musical performance to a highly desired series of workshops on oceanography and whaling. In addition to the sessions held at the high school, students have participated in such diverse activities as an archeological dig, a direct phone link-up with the White House, and three-day workshop held at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute.

COLLEGIATE CHALLENGE SERIES

The Collegiate Challenge Series offers students in grades 11 & 12 the opportunity to take standard college courses in cooperation with the nearby institution of Central Connecticut State University. Students are screened at the high school for the appropriateness of their collegiate course selections and their ability to handle the requirements at the college level in that area. Once certified by the school as having an acceptable preparation for the course, students register at the University and undertake their studies in conjuction with regular university students. No tuition is charged by the university nor is college credit given as a result of a student's participation in this program. Students may use the experience for collegiate credit only if they pay the standard evening tuition assessed by the university. Students have chosen such diverse subject areas to explore in this program as philosophy and religion, psychology, business law, computer programming, chemistry, and advanced calculus.

INTERNSHIP

A recent addition to our program allows students the opportunity to engage in an internship program with the Central Connecticut State University Planetarium and an area museum. Applications may be made by students in grades 9-12 for participation

in this segment of the program and students are screened and chosen by the staffs of the cooperative institutions. Students then serve as volunteers under the tutelage of the organizations' regular staff. Students have had experience in such diverse fields as graphic design, live animal studies, public relations, photography, architecture, and computers. A district Gifted and Talented teacher assigned on a part-time basis to Newington High School provides the district liason and support for this aspect of the gifted program.

COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

College credit courses are offered as a component of the day program at Newington High School and allow gifted students to work at advanced levels in such topics as french, spanish, american literature, western civilization and chemistry. These programs are offered in cooperation with the University of Connecticut and are taught as a regular teaching assignment by high school instructors certified by the University. Students study materials and complete academic assignments comparable to that found in the freshmen level at the University of Connecticut.

With the exception of the University of Connecticut cooperative courses, gifted offerings are not subject to either collegiate or high school credit. Notations are made on students' transcripts regarding their yearly participation in such programs. The program has been successful despite the lack of credit as a result of the input students give regarding the evaluation of program offerings as well as the opportunities to suggest topics in areas of interest to the gifted students for study.

NEWINGTON HIGH SCHOOL
GIFTED/TALENTED PROGRAM
COLLEGIATE CHALLENGE SERIES

Q. IS THERE ANY FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MY PART?

A. There is no charge for you to participate in the program as a member of the Newington High School Gifted/Talented Program. However, students who desire to use this experience to accrue college credits will be charged standard tuition before a transcript is issued by the university.

Q. WHAT ACADEMIC WORK WILL BE EXPECTED OF ME?

A. Work requirements are set by the course instructor per collegiate tradition. All program participants will be expected to complete assigned tasks and to maintain acceptable attendance.

Q. WILL ANY HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT BE GIVEN FOR THIS EXPERIENCE?

A. A notation will be made on your transcript of your participation in the program. However, no credit will be given toward high school graduation.

Q. WILL MY PROGRESS BE MONITORED?

A. Yes, contact will be maintained between the high school and Central Connecticut State University. Students who are judged to be performing below standards will be removed from this phase of the G/T program.

Q. WHAT COLLEGE COURSES ARE OPEN TO ME?

A. Enrollment in any particular offering, of course, is limited by the restrictions set by the university. See Mr. Lyons to register and obtain a letter of authorization from the high school.

Q. WHO MAY PARTICIPATE?

A. This program is restricted to junior and senior members of the Newington High School Gifted/Talented Program.

Q. MAY I STILL PARTICIPATE IN THE SEMINAR SERIES?

A. Yes, students who elect not to participate in the Challenge Series may still join one of the Seminar Series offerings. Students in the Challenge Series are encouraged not to enroll in the Seminar offerings in order to devote more time to their Challenge Series responsibilities. However, they may do so with the permission of Mr. Lyons.

NEWINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM

1981 - 1982

CRIMINAL LAW/BASIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

I. Seminar Description

The First Amendment - The various rights and responsibilities of the first amendment: free speech, the press, and assembly.

The Fourth Amendment - Search and Seizures

"Due Process" - Part I - The various rights and responsibilities from questions to arrest.

"Due Process" - Part II -

Seminar/Discussion approach - Students will be required to do readings in preparation for each class.

II. Instructor: Mr. Robert Lombardi

Mr. Lombardi has been with the Social Studies Department of Newington High School for four years. His previous teaching experiences were at Ridgefield High School, the Brown University Summer High School, and as a graduate assistant at Brown University. Mr. Lombardi received his B.A. in History from the University of Connecticut and his Masters from Brown University.

III. Program Schedule (Dates/Meeting Times)

Location: Newington High School - Room 310

Time: 7:30-9:00 p.m. - March 23, 30

April 6, 13

IV. Maximum Number of Students: 15

SCIENTIFIC THINKING AND ITS ALTERNATIVES

I. Seminar Description

Science has been spectacularly successful. Now, they can rearrange genes. They can send a space probe to Saturn. How did science achieve all this? What steps did Science take to get where it is? On the other hand, some people blame Science and technology for our environmental problems. Is there a limit to the capacity of science?

Through a series of three seminars, we will discuss the success of science and its characteristic way of thinking. Following that, we will discuss alternatives to scientific thinking. Tentative themes are:

1. Success of Science: Its characteristic way of thinking

2. An Alternative view: No experience necessary.

3. An Alternative view: What makes you think you are always right?

Learn to appreciate various alternatives of thinking. No memorization or both will be involved. We just want to see their "way of thinking".

These seminars will be useful for both "Science lovers" and "science haters".

II. Instructor: Mr. Timothy Sudo

B.A. - Philosophy, B.S. - Biology, M.A. - Linguistics,
M.A. - Philosophy of Religion

III. Program Schedule (Dates/Meeting Times)

Location: Newington High School - Room 313

Time: 7:30-8:30 p.m. - March 23, 25, 30 & April 1

IV. Maximum Number of Students: 15

CONTEMPORARY THEATRE - THE REAL OR THE ABSURB

I. Seminar Description

The seminar will focus on selected British, French and American dramas, which have come to be regarded as surrealistic drama or more popularly, theater of the absurb. Works to be covered will include "The Birthday Party" by Harold Pinter, "Waiting for Godot" by Samuel Beckett, "The Zoo Story" by Edward Albee and selected passages from works by Tom Stoppard, Eugene Ionesco, Jean Genet, etc.

II. Instructor: Mr. Stephen Ludlow

Mr. Ludlow has had extensive preparation in various areas of dramatic literature, both classical and modern, including performance, direction, and both undergraduate and graduate study.

III. Program Schedule (Dates/Meeting Times)

Location: Newington High School - Room 311

Time: 7:00-8:00 p.m. - March 30, April 6, April 13 & April 27

IV. Maximum Number of Students: 15

WORKSHOP IN BASIC CALLIGRAPHY

I. Seminar Description

The workshop will introduce the student to the basic calligraphic alphabets, italic and bookhand, and elementary lay-out procedures. Students who participate will be expected to complete a minimum of two practice hours in preparation for each class.

II. Instructor: Mrs. Linda Pepin

Mrs. Pepin has taken courses with Calligrapher & Design Artist, Al Horn. She also has had additional courses at Farmington Valley Art Center and at Conn. Institute of Art and Design.

III. Program Schedule (Dates/Meeting Times)

Location: Newington High School - Room 314

Time: 2:30-4:30 p.m. - May 3, May 10 & May 17

IV. Maximum Number of Students: 10

ADVANCES IN SCIENCE

I. Seminar Description

A discussion of Cosmology, Radiopharmaceuticals, Polymers and Quarks.

Guest speakers will include:

Mr. Michael Plankey, a clinical instructor of radiology and science at Yale New Haven Hospital.

Sister Mary Ellen Murphy, Ph.D, Professor of Chemistry at St. Joseph's College, NASA Consultant since Apollo 11 research

II. Instructor: Mr. William Pilotte

B.S. Southern Conn. State College - Chemistry (equivalent of B.S.-Physics)
M.S. Southern Conn. State College - Chemistry & Education
Graduate Study: University of Arizona
University of Connecticut

Past instructor of Chemistry at Southern Conn. State College & Ass't. instructor of Physics at Southern Conn. State College.

Currently - Instructor of Chemistry at Quinnipiac College

III. Program Schedule (Dates/Meeting Times)

Location: Newington High School - Room 213

Time: 7:00-8:00 p.m. - March 23, 30
April 6, 13

IV. Maximum Number of Students: 25

NEWINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

GIFTED/TALENTED PROGRAM 1981-1982

REGISTRATION FORM - SESSION II

_____ _____

Student's Name Homeroom

Please indicate below your choice of Enrichment Workshop. In making this choice you are not only indicating your interest, but also your understanding of the time commitment. Please indicate your first choice with a "1" and your second choice with a "2". Every effort will be made to give each student his/her first choice. Your participation in this program in future years will depend upon, in part, your conscientious effort to participate fully in this program.

_____ Criminal Law/Basic Rights and Responsibilities

_____ Scientific Thinking and Its Alternatives

_____ Contemporary Theatre - The Real or the Absurd

_____ Workshop in Basic Calligraphy

_____ Advances in Science

I do not wish to participate in Session II of the 1981-1982 Gifted/Talented Program. Please check here ____.

Please return this form even if not participating!

If you wish to enroll in your second choice, as well as your first choice, (assuming there is space available) check here _____.

This form must be returned to Mr. Lyons no later than Monday, March 1, 1982.

GIFTED AND TALENTED
PROGRAM GUIDE
SESSION ONE

1983-1984

TOTALITARIANISM IN CRISIS: THE STRIKES IN POLAND

I. SEMINAR DESCRIPTION

An examination of the emergence of the Free, Independent Trade Union - Solidarity, and its significance for the Soviet Bloc. Solidarity's appearence will be examined within the context of the post-war history of Poland as a member of the Soviet Bloc.

II. INSTRUCTOR: PROF. STANISLAUS A. BLEJWAS

Dr. Blejwas is an Associate Professor of History and Coordinator of Polish studies at Central Connecticut State University. He received his Ph.D. from Columbia University and has participated in numerous study visits to Poland for research and is the author of articles and books on Poland and Polish Americans.

III. PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Seminar sessions will be held from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings in 323. The exact dates of this seminar will be December 7 & 14.

IV. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 20

V. MATERIALS:

PSYCHOANALYSIS OF FAIRYTALES

I. SEMINAR DESCRIPTION

An introductory study of selected psycho-sociological implications of fairytales, an adult genre, which within the past two centuries has been erroneously considered as children's literature. Types of characters as they occur in fairytales will be discussed, particularly those of: hero, virgin, witch, villain, evil, and shadow. The close connection between myth and fairytales will also be explored. Seminar activities will include the viewing of a film, "The Shadow", various reading assignments as well as a writing assignment.

II. INSTRUCTOR: DR. BARBARA A. KATHE

Dr. Kathe currently serves as the chairperson of the English Department for St. Joseph College. She received a Ph.D. in English/American Literature from Drew University and is the author of numerous articles dealing with American and European literature.

III. PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Seminar sessions will be held from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings in Room 325. The exact dates of this seminar will be November 30 and December 7.

IV. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 15

V. MATERIALS:

Materials will be provided by the seminar instructor.

EXPLORING YOUR CREATIVITY

I. SEMINAR DESCRIPTION

Exploring Your Creativity involves students in a series of exercises, activities, and experiences that stimulate the creative process. Through poetry, art, dream imagery, problem solving, and group dynamics, students will explore the sources and nature of their personal creative process.

II. INSTRUCTOR: MR. CHARLES MARGOLIS

Mr. Margolis currently serves as an Art Instructor at Newington High School. He has taught Art As A Synthesizer, Horizons Unlimited, at Keene State College (Program for the Gifted and Talented and Teachers of the Gifted and Talented) in 1976 and 1978.

III. PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Seminar sessions will be held from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. on Thursday evenings in the Main Conference Room. The exact dates of this seminar will be December 1, 8 and 15.

IV. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 12

V. MATERIALS:

Materials will be supplied by instructor

NEWINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

GIFTED/TALENTED PROGRAM 1983-1984

REGISTRATION FORM - SESSION I

_____ _____

HOMEROOM STUDENT'S NAME

Please indicate below your choice of an Enrichment Workshop. In making this choice you are not only indicating your interest, but also your understanding of the time commitment. Please indicate your first choice with a "1" and your second choice with a "2". Every effort will be made to give each student his/her first choice. Your participation in this program in future years will depend upon, in part, your conscientious effort to participate fully in this program.

_____ Totalitarianism In Crisis

_____ Psychoanalysis of Fairy Tales

_____ Exploring Your Creativity

I do not wish to participate in Session I of the 1983-1984 Gifted/Talented Program. Please check here _____.

If you wish to enroll in your second choice, as well as your first choice, (assuming there is space available), check here _____.

This form must be returned to Mr. Lyons no later than Wednesday, November 16, 1983.

GIFTED AND TALENTED
PROGRAM GUIDE
SESSION TWO

1983-1984

RADIOLOGIC SCIENCES

I. SEMINAR DESCRIPTION

The seminar will provide the students with an overview of the various radiologic sciences diagnostic imaging techniques. Four of the major topics to be covered are: 1) Radiation Safety, 2) Radiation Biology, 3) Ultrasound techniques, and 4) Computed Tomography Scanning. These topics will be presented in a basic, easy-to-understand format.

The program objectives are to provide the student with 1) a basic understanding of the various radiologic sciences fields, 2) a working knowledge of radiation safety, 3) an understanding of radiation on the human body, and 4) a working knowledge of ultrasound and computed tomography scanning.

II. INSTRUCTOR: MS. MARY JANE CLARKE

Ms. Clarke currently serves as an Asst. Professor of Radiologic Sciences at Quinnipiac College in Hamden, CT. She holds a number of degrees in scientific areas specifically dealing with health science and radiologic technology. She has served also as an instructor in a number of hospitals in radiolical sciences as well as teaching a number of graduate courses at Quinnipiac College.

III. PROGRAM SCHEDULE

This seminar will run a minimum of five weeks to a maximum of six weeks, consisting of one hour presentations each week:

March 14, 1984	7-8 P.M.	- "Overview of Radiologic Sciences"
March 21, 1984	7-8 P.M.	"Radiation Safety"
March 28, 1984	7-8 P.M.	"Basic Radiation Biology"
April 4, 1984	7-8 P.M.	"Ultrasound"
April 11, 1984	7-8 P.M.	"Computed Tomography Scanning"
April 18, 1984	7-8 P.M.	"Evaluation of Seminar"

The seminar will be conducted in Room 318.

IV. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 20

V. MATERIALS:

Materials will be supplied by the instructor; however, students should attend each seminar with a notebook and pencil.

ALL CREATURES GREAT: THE ORDER CETACEA

I. SEMINAR DESCRIPTION

Members of this seminar-laboratory course will examine the physiology and communicative behavior of the largest mammals which have existed on earth. A popular thesis of the 1970's, based largely on research of questionable validity by Dr. John Lilly, suggested that cetaceans communicate on a higher philosophical level than humans. While there is no substantive evidence to support this argument.there is none to the contrary. The research on the communication of cetaceans is sadly lacking.

After an introduction to the physiology and communicative apparatus and behavior of these animals, course members will be directly involved in a current investigation studying the various parameters of cetacean communication.

As part of a research project based at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution we will examine tape recordings of fin back whales (Baleanoptera physalus) taken on four expeditions over the mid-Atlantic ridge. The signals on these tapes are inaudible to humans because of the very low frequency of the sound (17-20 Hz) but because they are accompanied by sonographs which visually represent the sounds (somewhat like an electric cardiogram), we can examine many aspects of the sound sequences. Students will examine these graphs in an attempt to develop a "vocabulary" based on frequency, amplitude, and duration. Those with a background in computer skills will attempt to develop a program which will codify the sounds directly from the recordings.

The program will be divided into six sessions meeting Thursday evenings and will culminate with a field trip to Cape Cod where we discuss our findings directly with the chief scientist for the project, William Watkins, and witness, first hand, the behavior of these impressive animals.

II. INSTRUCTOR: JOSEF P. TREGGOR

Josef Treggor, a member of the music staff at Newington High School for the last decade, has also a keen interest and background of sounds not produced by humans. He holds a MS in Biology and in 1982 was invited to the Marine Biological Laboratory's (Woods Hole) program in Marine Ecology. Following the formal program, he was one of six participants to be invited to perform post-course research. This research was continued to summer of 1983 when he was appointed a research associate of the MBL. It was during this summer that he met William Watkins and Karen Moore and became involved in the study of the accoustical properties of cetacean sounds.

Treggor has twice been published in the Bulletin of Marine Biology. and has a paper in press with Nature. He has twice presented his findings to General Scientific Meetings held in Woods Hole each August.

INSTRUCTOR: DR. CHARLES MAYO

Dr. Charles "Stormy" Mayo and members of the research team from the Cetacean Research Program at the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies will be on board all cruises to answer questions about the whales and whale research. Particular emphasis during each cruise is placed on the collection of scientific data by the research team under the direction of Dr. Mayo. The information collected includes identification of individual humpback and right whales, whale behaviour and environmental and oceanographic data. The scientists from the Program, who have been intensively studying the whales of the area since 1985, analyze the data yearly and produce reports and scientific papers which describe various,aspects of their observations. Data collected during cruises is also shared with other whale research organizations.

III. PROGRAM SCHEDULE

March 29: Session I - An Introduction to the Biology of the Cetacea

April 5: Session II - The Accoustical Properties of Cetacean and Underwater Sound

April 12: Session III - Examination of Sonographs and Recordings

April 26: Session IV - Examination of Sonographs and Recordings

May 3: Session V - Evaluation of Data; Report of Findings

May 10: Session VI - Of Whales and Whaling; A very Brief History of Whaling and its Current status. Preparation for field trip.

May 11 - 13 FIELD TRIP

Friday - May 11

1:00 - Depart NHS
4:00 - Check in at Cape Cod Seacamp, Brewster, Mass.
5:30 - Dinner
6:30 - Field trip to adjacent beach
8:00 - Lecture/discussion with Dr. William Watkins or Karen Moore

Saturday - May 12

8:00 - Breakfast
9:30 - Departure for Lieutenant's Island, Welfleet, the site of two recent mass strandings of pilot whales
12:00 - Independent lunch, Provincetown
2:00 - Board the Dolphin III for a five hour whale watch over Stellwagen Banks with Dr. Charles Mayo (Center for Cetacean Research). Sightings will probably include humpback, fin back, minke and perhaps right whales as well as bottlenose and white-sided dolphins.
8:00 - Dinner

Sunday - May 13

8:00 - Breakfast
9:00 - Depart for Woods Hole. At this oceanographic facility (one of the most comprehensive and prestigious in the world) we will visit the Marine Biological Laboratory, the Oceanographic Institute, the Marine Fisheries Service of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration as well as any research vessels in port.
12:00 - Independent lunch
5:00 - Arrive at NHS

IV. PARTICIPANTS: 25 Maximum (Pre-requisite: One year of laboratory biology - may be concurrent)

V. SPECIAL NOTE:

There will be a charge for the field trip as the cost cannot be completely borne by the Gifted/Talented program. This fee includes 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, 2 dinners, the whale watch, transportation and all lectures. Because the major cost is transportation, it is necessary to have a minimum of 20 participants.

Cost: $70.00 per student

EXPLORING YOUR CREATIVITY

I. SEMINAR DESCRIPTION

Exploring Your Creativity involves students in a series of exercises, activities, and experiences that stimulate the creative process. Through poetry, art, dream imagery, problem solving, and group dynamics, students will explore the sources and nature of their personal creative process.

II. INSTRUCTOR: MR. CHARLES MARGOLIS

Mr. Margolis currently serves as an Art Instructor at Newington High School. He has taught Art As A Synthesizer, Horizons Unlimited, at Keene State College (Program for the Gifted and Talented and Teachers of the Gifted and Talented) in 1976 and 1978.

III. PROGRAM SCHECULE

Seminar sessions will be held from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. on Thursday evenings in the Main Conference Room. The exact dates of this seminar will be March 15, 22 and 29.

IV. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 12

V. MATERIALS:

Materials will be supplied by instructor

REGISTRATION FORM

SPRING GIFTED/TALENTED SEMINARS

1983 - 1984

Name _____ H.R. _____

☐ Radiologic Sciences - Ms. Mary Jane Clarke

☐ Exploring Your Creativity - Mr. Charles Margolis

☐ I would like to register ONLY for the Seminar, All Creatures Great: The Order Cetacea. I cannot participate in the field trip and understand that registration priority will be given to field trip participants.

☐ I would like to register for the seminar, All Creatures Great: The Order Cetacea, including the field trip experience. PLEASE INCLUDE FIELD TRIP FEE AND PARENTAL PERMISSION FORM when registering.

FIELD TRIP PERMISSION FORM

I grant permission for my son/daughter _____,
to participate in the field trips and laboratories for All Creatures Great: The Order Cetacea. I am aware of the dates and activities of these trips and have reviewed the brochure with my son/daughter.

_____
Parent Signature

PLEASE RETURN TO STODDARD HOUSE OFFICE BY MARCH 12, 1984.